

We are Christ Church! Called to Love and Be Loved Know and Be Known and Share God's Love Boldly!

Christ Church A Church for Everyone

Join us for a Drive Up Communion Sunday Dec 27

# SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27 11:15 A.M. TO NOON JOIN US FOR DRDEE-UP COMMUNION

#### Pastor Sean L. Forde

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; (Isaiah 61:1)

Our *Season of Hope* continues to encourage us to have hope amid great adversity, by having repentant hearts, and knowing that the Spirit of the Lord is upon us. I am pleased beyond words because our congregation continues to engage in ministry for the sake of the gospel. We *bring the good news* of Jesus Christ through our preschool ministry, through presenting gifts for children in the Angel Tree program, through providing meals for hurting families, through inperson and online worship, and through creating a family atmosphere and Christian community that draws people into a closer relationship with Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

As we prepare for the birth of our Lord and our season of hope, may you be filled with hope, peace, love, and joy. Here is a brief snapshot of our ministry this month.

- Campus Safety/Perimeter Fence Project
  - CDC Health and Safety protocols are still in place on campus.
  - Sherry Zapatos from Zepco Fence gave a presentation on ornate fencing options on Monday November 23, 2020. Fencing costs are about \$48,000.
  - Promotional slides prepared for congregational Sunday announcements and Preschool Newsletter to families.
  - Funding streams are church and preschool donations, brick fundraiser, and individual donors. Checking for grants and other funding.
- Worship Update
  - Online worship upgrades completed.
  - Thank you to all who volunteered to help with Christmas Decorations. The church looks beautiful.
  - Next Scheduled Drive-Up Holy Communion event is on Sunday December 27, 2020 from 11:15 a.m. to Noon.
- Holiday Outreach
  - We helped five families in need with Thanksgiving gift boxes, four preschool families and one community family with small children.
  - The Christmas Tree Lighting on Wednesday December 2, 2020 was a great event that was both attended and appreciated by the families who attended.
  - Angel Tree to help families in need again demonstrates the heart and generosity of our congregation.
  - Outdoor Preschool Play on December 17, at 4:30 p.m.
  - Christmas Eve Services at 5:00 and 7:00 p.m.

Thank you to all who make Christ Church and Preschool a beacon of hope in our community.

Pastor Sean L. Forde

## Treasurer's Report

Merry Christmas!!

While I know many cannot wait for this year to end, the accountant in me would like to remind everyone to "count" your blessings. As a church, we do have a lot to be thankful for:

- Thanks to the PPE loan, our church is still in good shape even with lower offerings and school registrations. We are working on the required paperwork to turn this loan into a grant that does not have to be paid back. The bank wants us to hold off as long as possible since new legislation will reduce the required paperwork.
- We found solutions for our roof without having to replace the whole roof. Right now, there are no leaks giving us additional time to continue raising money for the day when we do have to replace the roof.
- We are now reaching a lot more people with our online services. Our audio-visual team is doing an amazing job bringing our church into the technological era.
- Our church does have a wonderful group of people that are putting in tons of work hours to make our property look beautiful. As your treasurer, I know there is no way we could pay for all the work they are doing! We are truly blessed to have them.

A few notes on offerings:

- For those of you asking about your offering checks not being deposited, our teller team is staying safe at home. I do apologize that we are not counting and preparing deposits every week. We do try every other week or at minimum once a month.
- Please remember that your offerings help pay for all the regular expenses of our church salaries, mortgage, utilities, and much more. Donations for additional expenses (angel tree, fence, brick, seminarian fund, food pantry, etc.) should be above your regular offerings.
- FYI: Previously, charitable contributions could only be deducted if taxpayers itemized their deductions. The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) allows for taxpayers who do not itemize deductions to take a charitable deduction of up to \$300 for cash contributions made in 2020 to qualifying organizations that would be Christ Church! If you do not itemize, make sure to take advantage of this deduction.



## News from Christ Church Preschool

Dear Parents,

Hark the Herald angels sing, glory to the newborn King! This beautiful carol reminds of the true reason that we celebrate Christmas. This king who came veiled in flesh as a baby, is none other than the Lord Jesus, who has saved us from our sins.

#### Christmas Gift Exchange

Each teacher will oversee a gift exchange between the children at their class Christmas party.

#### <u>December Schedule</u>

VPK instruction ends on Friday, December 18<sup>th</sup> for 2020. VPK resumes on January 4<sup>th</sup>. As you enjoy the Christmas season may: "The Lord Bless you and keep you, the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you, The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace."

Blessings, Preschool Administration

#### Join us for our holiday program The Birthday of a King

Thursday, December 17th at 4:30pm outdoor for social distancing.

#### Curriculum Corner

Toddlers- 2's and 3's

One-year olds participate in finger art, Bible time, singing and sharing skills. Two-year olds are learning letter "I", as they color "Itchy Inchworm," and make holiday arts and crafts. Three-year olds are recognizing letters Hh, Ii, Jj. They will hear poetry and sing Christmas songs. Bible time will include verse memorization and the true meaning of Christmas.

#### VPK-4 year Olds

Four-year old's are reviewing short vowel blends. Character development focuses on being "Diligent" while language development discusses types of transportation. The Nativity story will be read. Bible stories will include Queen Ester, Jonah and the true meaning of Christmas.

#### **Dates to Remember**

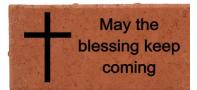
December 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> -Polar Express Week December 15th- Polar Express Movie (Pajama Day) December 17<sup>th</sup>– Christmas Program at 4:30pm December 21<sup>st</sup> thru Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> – NO VPK December 24<sup>th</sup> thru Jan 1<sup>st</sup> – Christmas Break School Closed

## Preschool Calendar



### Good New@

**Good News**@ continues as a Sunday morning conversation about Gospel and Biblical topics and lessons. Some Sundays the sharing is simply what's on attendees' minds and at other times by mid-week prompts of scriptural passages, or random thoughts and concerns from John Childrey or someone who has found a topic of interest. During the pandemic, the Sunday morning live crowd has been about 5 folks. Melody De Jesus and/or John Childrey usually moderate the conversation. Contact John (<u>childrey@fau.edu</u>) if you would like to receive the mid-week prompts. Please be certain to include your email or preferred means of contact.



## Christ Church and Preschool "WALK OF FAITH" Brick Campaign

We are happy to be offering an engraved brick campaign to raise funds to support church missions and initiatives. You can help by donating a commemorative brick that will become an integral part of the long-lasting walkway in our Breezeway. Your "WALK OF FAITH" brick will be a visible historical reminder of your generous support for generations to come. Bricks are available for purchase at \$100 each and can be personalized with up to three lines of text (20 characters per line). Add \$25 for religious clip art, such as a cross, a heart, etc. Each personalized brick will be placed to line the church walkways. Follow this link to customize your brick: https://polarengraving.com/christchurchandpreschool

Once customized, send your check to the church office or drop it in the offering basket with brick written in the memo line. Each 4"x 8" red clay brick can be used to honor or remember a loved one, mark an anniversary, share a favorite scripture, or commemorate a milestone such as a birthday, birth, or graduation. Personalized bricks make great gifts as well. This will be an ongoing fundraiser in support of Christ Church and Preschool

ALL TEXT IS CENTERED BOTH HORIZONTALLY & VERTICALLY ON THE BRICK. IF YOU ENTER ONLY 1 OR 2 LINES OF TEXT IT WILL BE CENTERED ON THE BRICK.

## Ron and Nancy Saathoff Farewell and Godspeed



Please join us in giving thanks for their service to God through Christ Church.

## Update from the Outreach Team



In December we adopted 51 Children from Port Labelle Child Development Center for our Angel Tree Project. We are pleased to report that the Advent Tree Lighting was a great successchurch families and preschool families came together for the outdoor event. We will be cleaning up the breezeway and outside of the Sanctuary before Christmas Eve, and will once again set up luminaries on the walkway for Christmas Eve Services.

In January we are planning a neighborhood book give away with the excess books from the Preschool. This event will include a story time and perhaps a pb&j afterschool snack. We will work on Winter Luau with the Fellowship and Worship teams. We will be changing the theme and refresh the Front Preschool fun activity zone.

### LIFT



Our Zoom Bible Study on Chapter 9 in the book Overcoming Worry" will resume on Wednesday, January 13 at 7:00 P.M.

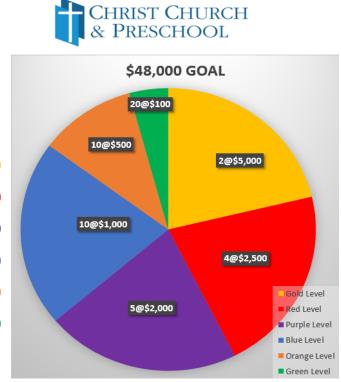
LIFT is open to all women! If you are interested in joining us, please contact Linda Rand, <u>llourand@aol.com</u>

## Fencing Project

There are many ways to help the fundraising for the much needed campus fencing.

#### Fence Project Giving Levels 51 Donors Needed

Donor Base	Amount	Sub Total	Total
2 Donors @	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
4 Donors @	\$2,500	\$10,000	\$20,000
5 Donors @	\$2,000	\$10,000	\$30,000
10 Donors @	\$1,000	\$10,000	\$40,000
10 Donors @	\$500	\$5,000	\$45,000
20 Donors @	\$100	\$2,000	\$48,000





#### Did you know you can contribute to the ongoing ministries and projects at Christ Church?



## You can now make a contribution with text!

Simply send a text message to **954-866-4491** with the amount you would like to contribute. Within a few minutes, you'll be sent a text with a link to register. Click on the link and follow the instructions. Or make gifts on the church website: christchurchcs.com.

#### **Christ Church and Preschool** WE ARE CALLED TO LOVE AND BE LOVED, KNOW AND BE KNOWN AND SHARE GOD'S LOVE BOLDLY!

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Join us for Worship Sunday every Sunday at 10 am or catch us on Facebook Live